Expenditue incurred in the improvement and upkeep of the Valiathurai Pier.

32. MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state the total amount of expenditure actually incurred for improving and keeping in good repair the Valiathurai Pier for the last six years?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN: A statement containing the information required by the member is placed on the table.

Statement showing the expenditure incurred in the improvement and upkeep of the Valiothurai Pier for the last six years.

Year.	*Improvements.*	*Maintenance or repairs.*
1103	5,445-12- 2	5,181-24- 5
1104	109-15-14	5,057-28- 0
1105	...	6,132-26- 4
1106	5,074-18- 4	4,331-13- 2
1107	609- 8- 1	5,188-27-14
1108	4,418-25-15	5,469-20-15

Development of the Valiathurai Pier.

33. MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received any representation regarding the necessity of further developing the Valiathurai Pier, in Trivandrum, and, if so, what action has been taken on the representation?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes. The improvements proposed are—

(1) Extension of the Valiathurai Pier. This is considered not necessary at present.

(2) The installation of a seven ton electric crane on the pier.

The resisting power of the pier is reported to be only two tons and hence it is impossible to instal a seven ton crane on the pier.

(3) Construction of a goods shed.

In addition to the three open godowns, one closed godown is under construction and is nearing completion.

(4) Appointment of an officer of higher status as Port Conservator.

It is considered unnecessary to appoint an officer of higher status with special traffic experience as Port Conservator as the work at present is done satisfactorily.

Acquisition of land for the Kottayam-Kumarakam road.

34. MR. M. N. NARAYANA MENON: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) when proceedings for the acquisition of land for the Kottayam-Kumarakam road was started:

(*b*) at what stage it is now (18-8-1109):

(*c*) the amount sanctioned for the said road in the Budget for the current year;

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[Mr. M. N. Narayana Menon.]

(*d*) the amount expended from the amount sanctioned : and

(*e*) whether they propose to expend the balance, if any, this year itself ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT :

(*a*) 24-6-1933.

(*b*) The valuation statements are being verified.

(*c*) The original allotment was Rs. 5,000, but it has subsequently been reduced to Rs. 4,000.

(*d*) Rs. 820-16-11.

(*e*) Yes, if the land acquisition proceedings are completed and the lands handed over.

WELCOME TO THE PRESIDENT.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum*) : Sir, on this the first occasion when you preside over the Sri Chitra State Council, may I, Sir, with your permission, offer you on behalf of my non-official colleagues on this side of the House a cordial and respectful welcome? We are really proud that a statesman of your eminence and a leader of renown is our President. You have been at the head of the Administration for some time now and, to whichever part of the country, public business took you in the meanwhile, the local people received you with great respect and cordiality and showered encomiums on your past achievements. Constant references to your achievement, it would seem, have begun to embarrass you. But, Sir, it is pardonable, if in the discerning eyes of the intelligent Travancorean, those achievements appear in new and heightened colours. However, Sir, I resist the temptation to dwell on those achievements and I may proceed to say at once that we in this House consider ourselves to be in a position of distinct advantage in that, we have been enabled to know your views regarding some of the major problems that confront the State and also your attitude towards the legislative bodies in this country and towards the representative institutions generally. Sir, in your address at the Sri Mulam Assembly, you made it known that it is your desire and your determination to make the legislature, over which you preside, a model of what all of us ardently desire it should be. It is really very heartening, Sir, to us who are sensitive about our rights and privileges, your assurances that you will uphold the dignity and prestige of the Council are most welcome. You have also, Sir, anticipated our wishes, when you declared that the gaps that may be found existing in the Rules and Standing Orders would be filled by the establishment of healthy conventions on progressive and democratic lines. Sir, a second Chamber, is unknown either in an Indian State or in a Provincial Administration. We assure you, Sir, that we realise fully the responsibilities of a revising Chamber. Our past record, brief as it is, is proof that we have imposed healthy restraints upon ourselves in order that we may avoid dead-locks arising, we have tried to transcend all barriers of caste and creed and have worked with a view to promote the

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